Joan Johnson





Director, Weapons and Energetics Department Naval Air Systems Command

Ms. Joan Johnson currently serves as the Director of Weapons and Energetics for the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR). Ms. Johnson, who is duty stationed at the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD), China Lake, Calif., manages over 1,000 civilian professionals at multiple NAVAIR sites, and is responsible for the development and integration of air-launched, surface-launched, ship and land attack weapons and anti-air missiles, as well as the promotion and maintenance of the technology base for these areas.

Ms. Johnson entered the Senior Executive Service in August 2008. With 30 years of experience in both the private sector and as a civilian with the Department of Defense, Ms. Johnson began her career in industry as an engineer in Electronic Warfare Research and Development. Ms. Johnson continued to work as both a software engineer and a systems engineer in industry, developing and integrating software and systems solutions for airborne avionics and Electronic Warfare systems. While in industry, Ms. Johnson was promoted to Engineering Program Manager and Software Engineering Department Manager for teams developing Electronic Warfare suites for the United States Navy, United States Army, and United States Air Force.

Ms. Johnson was hired into the government in February 2000, at NAWCWD, China Lake, Calif., working for the Systems Engineering Department, leading independent program assessments of NAVAIR software-intensive acquisition programs. In September 2001, Ms. Johnson was promoted to the position of Weapon System Support Activity Lead for the AH-1 Super Cobra attack helicopter program. In that capacity, Ms. Johnson was responsible for execution of full lifecycle support for the AH-1 Super Cobra mission systems and weapon systems. In December 2003, Ms. Johnson was selected as the Head of the Systems Engineering Management Division, providing supervision and leadership to product team leads, chief engineers, and senior engineers supporting weapon systems acquisition, development, and sustainment for Naval Aviation. In 2008, Ms. Johnson was selected as Director, Software Engineering for NAVAIR and Head of the Systems Engineering Department at NAWCWD and served in that role until 2013 when she was assigned to her current position.

Ms. Johnson earned a bachelor's of science degree in chemical engineering from the University of Virginia. Ms. Johnson was a recipient of the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division Michelson Laboratory Award in 2007 for significant contributions to Naval and Marine

Aviation. She received the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 2011 and the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division Dr. L.T.E. Thompson Award in 2013. She has been a member of the Acquisition Professional Community since 2002.